

# NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

## Minutes of Meeting

May 19, 2004

A meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held on Wednesday, May 19, 2004, in the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, First Floor, Eric Rood Administrative Center, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California. The meeting was scheduled for 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Drew Bedwell, Tim Brady, DeVere Mautino, Russ Steele, Peter Van Zant (alternate), Conley Weaver

Members Absent: Josh Susman, Robin Sutherland

Staff Present: Dan Landon, Executive Director; Nancy Holman, Administrative Services Officer; Toni Perry, Administrative Assistant; Mike Woodman, Transportation Planner

Standing Orders: Chairman Mautino convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Commission first discussed Action #9 on the agenda to provide Mr. Terrazas, Assistant to the Manager of the Town of Truckee, an opportunity to leave in time for another scheduled meeting.

### ACTION ITEM:

#### 9. 2003 Triennial Performance Audit of the Town of Truckee Transit Services:

Geoff Straw of LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. explained that the Transportation Development Act (TDA) requires a performance audit of the transit services to be sure they are in compliance with state law, i.e. proper recording and reporting data and service levels. Mr. Straw reviewed the ten findings and seven recommendations in the draft performance audit for the Town of Truckee's transit services.

Alex Terrazas stated that the performance audit was very helpful in identifying opportunities to potentially operate the transit system more effectively. He reported that staff continues to meet with the transit contractor every two weeks to keep lines of communication open.

In order to assure the Commission that the recommendations are being implemented, Executive Director Landon stated a date would be set with Alex Terrazas to return to the Commission within six months with a progress report.

Commissioner Van Zant made a motion to adopt Resolution 04-14 accepting the 2003 performance audit for the Town of Truckee transit services. Commissioner Bedwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

#### 1. Financial Reports: April 2004

No discussion.

2. Correspondence:

- F. Memorandum from Dan Landon, dated May 4, 2004 - Included fifteen pages of the administrative draft of the U.C. Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies Traffic Safety Evaluation to the Commissioners for their review.

Executive Director Landon explained that once comments on the draft were received from Caltrans and local staff, they would be integrated into the report and become the basis for the final recommendations. The final draft report will then be presented to the Commission for approval, possibly at next month's meeting.

- I. Nevada County Board of Supervisors - Letter requesting comments on the findings and recommendations of a grand jury report and Mr. Landon's response.

Executive Director Landon noted that staff had provided a response to the Nevada County Board of Supervisor's regarding a grand jury report on the Environmental Protection Agency's air quality issues.

- J. Legislative update and information regarding AB 2628-Hybrid Vehicles.

Executive Director Landon requested that the Commission take a "monitor" position on AB 2628, which permits hybrid vehicles to use HOV lanes.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that staff monitor AB 2628. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Director's Report.

3.2. Caltrans Transportation Development Act Working Group

Executive Director Landon stated that he was participating on a statewide committee regarding the Transportation Development Act (TDA), which is the principle piece of legislation that establishes the Commission and its responsibilities. The committee hopes the discussions will result in improvements to the TDA guidebook, and in the creation of a "white paper", which will provide an overview of the best practices in administration of the TDA. Mr. Landon noted that his focus was to maintain the local control in the TDA.

3.5. Nevada City/Nevada County Boulder Street/Red Dog Road Traffic Analysis

Executive Director Landon reported that Grant Johnson of PRISM Engineering was doing a traffic model to analyze alternative traffic routes on the east side of Nevada City. The results of this analysis will be provided to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and will be used to assist Nevada City and Nevada County in addressing the impacts of proposed projects along the Boulder Street/Red Dog Road corridor.

3.6. Western Nevada County Transit Operators Triennial Performance Audit - Transit Governance

Executive Director Landon stated a request had been made at the last Commission meeting to agendize the governance issues that had been discussed in the western Nevada County Transit Operators Performance Audit. He explained that because the Commission is not a member of the

Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), this issue should be addressed by the Transit Services Commission (TSC) and members of the JPA.

### 3.7. Brown Act Regarding Email Communications

Executive Director Landon stated the information on the Brown Act and email communications had been provided by Steve Gross, NCTC's Legal Counsel, in response to a request by a Commissioner.

### 4. Caltrans District 3 - Project Status Report: Tom Brannon, Caltrans Project Manager for Nevada County.

Mr. Brannon provided a written report on the status of transportation projects in Nevada County and highlighted those of major interest.

- *Truckee Traffic Signals and Roundabouts on SR 89 at I-80*: Plans for this project have been delivered to the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) for their review and approval.
- *Dorsey Drive Interchange*: A Caltrans focus meeting is planned for May 21<sup>st</sup> to enable Caltrans Traffic staff to provide data to Design staff so they can begin their tasks. A Project Development Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- *Widening and Shoulder Work from north of Lime Kiln Road to Pekolee Drive on SR 49*: The Project Report was approved on April 27<sup>th</sup> and the design phase of this project has started.
- *Roundabout at Gold Flat Road*: Caltrans Design team has provided an estimate of \$860,000 to complete this project. Approximately \$600,000 to \$650,000 of safety funds is available based on the safety index for the number of accidents that have occurred at this location; therefore, Caltrans cannot fund the roundabout they had proposed. All-way stop control will be installed at the Gold Flat Road overpass within two to three months. Data indicates that the all-way stop control will work for about five years. Mr. Brannon stated it was his opinion that the ultimate solution to the accident problem is a roundabout, probably at both ends of the overpass. The design drawings for the stop signs at the Gold Flat interchange will be made available for the Commission's review.

Commissioner Weaver stated he was the author of the interim proposal of the stop signs and had prepared the first draft design of them. He noted that the City of Nevada City had concerns regarding design of the proposed roundabout.

Commissioner Brady asked Mr. Brannon to review the schedule for the Dorsey Drive interchange project from the present through 2009. Mr. Brannon responded that the Project Report and Environmental Document would be completed in July 2006. Acquiring right-of-way will begin in July 2006 through January 2009. Design complete and project estimate will occur in December 2007. The job will be advertised in February 2009. Roundabouts at both ends of the intersection are a design alternative and the decision will be made in July 2006. Although funding is available, risks of lack of funds have been identified in construction support, which is staff time and construction capital. Caltrans will not know whether the project is underfunded, and by how much, until they get closer to the Project Approval date. Mr. Landon stated that prior to that decision point, there is another STIP cycle that could provide additional revenues to the project if needed.

Michael Hill-Weld, Director of Transportation and Sanitation, questioned if the design for the interchange included all four ramps. Mr. Brannon responded that Caltrans was looking at a full interchange, but will prepare alternatives for a partial interchange in case the project is determined to be underfunded.

Michael Hill-Weld stated that the County wanted to be sure that the ultimate design for the interchange was presented in a public forum.

Commissioner Van Zant stated that he wanted to be sure he understood what was said in the discussion: that Caltrans is going to design a full interchange with all four legs; right-of-way is going to be purchased; and there may be a delay in the construction of one leg of the intersection due to funding constraints. Mr. Brannon agreed to the accuracy of Commissioner Van Zant's statement.

Mr. Landon stated that it was the intention of the Commission and staff to proceed with looking at ways of acquiring full funding; particularly in the next STIP cycle, so there will be a full interchange.

CONSENT ITEMS:

5. Certificate of Appreciation for Service on the NCTC: Kerry Arnett. *Authorized the Chairman to sign the certificate of appreciation.*
6. NCTC Minutes: April 21, 2004. *Approved.*
7. Revised NCTC Meeting Schedule for 2004: *Approved revised meeting schedule.*
8. Revised Findings of Apportionments for 2004/05: *Adopted Resolution 04-13 approving the Revised Findings of Apportionments for 2004/05 FY.*

Commissioner Bedwell made a motion to approve the consent items. Commissioner Van Zant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS (continued):

10. Amendment III to the 2003/04 OWP:

Executive Director Landon explained that Amendment III to the Overall Work Program expands the scope of work for the contract with Bickett Engineering to help in the design of the frontage road improvements (between the Idaho-Maryland Road/East Main Street intersection and the Colfax Avenue/South Auburn Street Intersection) to the point it can be turned over to the City of Grass Valley for implementation. The agenda packet contains some of the alternatives that have been prepared by Bickett Engineering and the preliminary cost estimate for the full frontage road improvement. The cost is estimated at \$4.5 million dollars.

Greg Bickett of Bickett Engineering explained to the Commission some of the intricacies of the improvements that needed to be made and answered their questions.

Commissioner Steele made a motion to adopt Resolution 04-15 approving Amendment III to the 2003/04 Overall Work Program. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments were made.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Bedwell stated that more than likely this was his last meeting with the Transportation Commission and thanked Mr. Landon and staff, the Commissioners, and the regular members of the audience.

Commissioner Steele stated he was working with Commission staff to try and characterize and quantify the benefits e-government has generated in terms of traffic mitigation in the future. He stated that the Economic Resource Council was doing a study on what impacts broadband communications would have on the community. A nexus is being seen between broadband communications and traffic mitigations.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 2004 at 8:30 a.m., at the Grass Valley City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chairman Mautino adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy D. Holman, Administrative Services Officer

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DeVere Mautino, Chairman  
Nevada County Transportation Commission